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LETTER DATED 17 AUGUST 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF AZERBAIJAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and the above-mentioned statement circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Hassan A. HASSANOV
Permanent Representative

Annex

Statement made on 17 August 1993 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey

Turkey has been following with deep concern the continuing Armenian aggression against Azerbaijan and the occupation of Azerbaijani territories in defiance of Security Council resolutions and the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) peace process.

The Armenian aggression is focused this time on the Azerbaijani districts of Fizuli and Djabrail and the territories around the formerly occupied city of Agdam. The Armenians have been totally destroying the areas of settlement which they occupy in order to prevent the return of the displaced Azerbaijani population to their homes.

These continuous attacks are not only in defiance of all the principles of international law, United Nations resolutions and peace efforts, but they will also bring the Armenians into confrontation with the international community. It is obvious that short-term territorial gains are not compatible with long-term strategic interests. If there is a desire for peace, stability and cooperation in the region, the use of force should definitely be avoided.

As it is well known, the United Nations Security Council has adopted two resolutions in the last four months condemning the Armenian aggression and occupation and demanding the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azerbaijani territories.

Turkey is supporting the Azerbaijani Government on this matter and feels obliged to remind the aggressor of its great responsibility. In this context, Turkey and Azerbaijan have been taking the necessary démarches for the urgent convening of the Security Council to take effective enforcement measures to stop the Armenian aggression and to secure the immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied Azerbaijani territories.